**CITY OF PETERBOROUGH** 

**POET LAUREATE PROGRAM 2024**

**NOMINATION FORM**

**INTRODUCTION**

Dozens of cities across Canada have recently developed or rejuvenated Poet Laureate programs in their municipalities, joining cities around the world who recognize that appointing and supporting an official Poet Laureate brings new vision and voice to the identity of their city, while adding grace and substance to official civic occasions. It is a creative way to acknowledge and appreciate the arts, particularly poetry, support outstanding living artists, and engage citizens in thinking more deeply about where we live and what it means to be here. Poets Laureate bring deeper meaning and reflection to all the work that the City does to contribute to community well-being and create a vibrant community for its citizens. Poet Laureate programs enhance the value of literacy and the literary arts by building a deeper knowledge and understanding of our histories, our lives today and the place where we live.

The Poet Laureate is an honorary position established by the City of Peterborough to recognize the excellence and outstanding achievement of professional poets (both print/page and spoken word) living and working in our city and to enhance our civic identity.

The program launched as a pilot in 2021-22 and Sarah Lewis was appointed as Peterborough’s first-ever Poet Laureate. Following an extremely successful term including four appearances at official City occasions as well as some 70 additional engagements, Peterborough’s City Council voted to make the Poet Laureate a permanent position. Ziysah von Bieberstein is serving as the Poet Laureate for 2023-24.

Following feedback from the community and the previous Poets Laureate, in 2024 EC3 is making the Poet Laureate into a two-year position. This will give the Poet Laureate the opportunity to develop longer-term projects and forge deeper ties in the community.

The 2024 Poet Laureate Program will be launched in March 2024, with a nomination deadline of **April 18, 2024 at 11:59pm**. The official term will run from **June 2024 to June 2026**.

The City of Peterborough is responsible for the Poet Laureate Program which is administered by the Electric City Culture Council (EC3) under the guidance of the City of Peterborough’s Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (ACAC). The City provides an honorarium of $2,000 per year over the two-year term ($4,000 total), and EC3 manages the program and supports the Poet Laureate.

Nominations can be submitted by email to [peterboroughpoetlaureate@gmail.com](mailto:peterboroughpoetlaureate@gmail.com) with the subject line “Nomination for the Peterborough Poet Laureate 2024.”

**INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESSIBILITY**

The Electric City Culture Council is committed to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility in all our programs and encourages applications from self-identified members of marginalized/racialized, equity seeking communities (visible and invisible), including BIPOC artists, Deaf and hard of hearing artists, artists with disabilities, new Canadians, and those artists identifying as 2SLGBTQ+.

EC3 is committed to establishing fair and equitable practices for all of our programs and services in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to come forward by contacting EC3 staff at [electriccitycc@gmail.com](mailto:electriccitycc@gmail.com) at any stage of the application process to request support or accommodations, if needed. Members of our team will consult and adapt processes wherever possible to provide individuals with disabilities with equal opportunity to apply.

EC3 will host professional development workshops to support Poet Laureate applications and explain the nomination process, both online and in-person. Watch EC3’s website and social media for announcements.

EC3 encourages applications for the Peterborough Poet Laureate from all those who live in our diverse community and advocates for equal opportunity for all applicants in the nomination and selection process. EC3 is committed to supporting and promoting diverse artists, artistic practices, and arts communities that represent a wide cross-section of Peterborough and the surrounding area, including artists who are Indigenous, Black, or people of colour, as well as artists with disabilities, Deaf and hard of hearing artists and those who are members of marginalized religious, sexual orientation, and gender identity groups. EC3 strives to make our juries, selection, and assessment committees equitable and inclusive by ensuring broad representation from the communities outlined above.

**PETERBOROUGH POET LAUREATE 2024**

**NOMINATION FORM**

***To be filled out jointly by Nominator and Nominee.***

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION**

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

**NOMINEE INFORMATION**

Name of Nominee:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

Website or social media (optional):

**STATEMENTS OF AGREEMENT**

**Nominator**: I understand and accept the conditions of the submission and selection process and I agree to keep all results confidential until the date of the public announcement.

Signature: Date:

**Nominee**: I understand and accept the conditions of the submission and selection process. I agree to be considered for the Poet Laureate Program and I give EC3 permission to use my biographical material for promotional purposes should I be selected. If selected as the Poet Laureate, I agree to participate fully in all activities, photography and video, media conferences, and related events. I agree to keep all results confidential until the date of the public announcement.

Signature: Date:

**SUPPORT MATERIALS**

**Maximum five examples of work from the last 10 years**

Please list the title of the work, the date of publication and/or performance and, if desired, a short description for context. You may submit Word documents, PDFs, video files, and/or links to online content (YouTube, Dropbox, Soundcloud, etc.) as examples of your work.

1.

2.

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**PETERBOROUGH POET LAUREATE APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

* Completed and Signed Nomination Form
* Curriculum Vitae (CV)
* Confirmation of Residence
* Nominator’s Letter (maximum 500 words)
* Nominee’s Letter of Intent (maximum 750 words)
* Support Materials (see below and Program Guidelines)
* Artist Bio (maximum 250 words)

Completed applications must be submitted by email to [peterboroughpoetlaureate@gmail.com](mailto:peterboroughpoetlaureate@gmail.com) with the subject line “**Nomination for the Peterborough Poet Laureate 2024**.”

**The nomination deadline is April 18, 2024 at 11:59pm. Late or incomplete nominations will not be considered.**

**For further information contact:**

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[electriccitycc@gmail.com](mailto:electriccitycc@gmail.com)

[www.ecthree.org](http://www.ecthree.org/)

